Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for resuming a computing device, comprising:

determining whether a selected operational environment is in a resume stack;

if the selected operational environment is in the resume stack, then

popping an entry of the resume stack, the entry identifying a location of a resume file;

invoking the selected operational environment using the resume file; and

booting the selected operational environment if the selected operational environment was not in the resume stack, wherein the resume stack identifies a plurality of disparate operational environments,

wherein each operational environment has a corresponding disk partition, the corresponding disk partition having an operational environment loader, wherein the resume file resides in a disk partition identified by a globally unique identifier (GUID) in a partition table, the disk partition corresponding to one of a plurality of operational environments to be run on the computing device, and wherein the computing device is configured with an extensible firmware interface (EFI) architecture to define the plurality of disk partitions having corresponding operational environments.

2. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

entering a sleep mode for a current operational environment, wherein entering the sleep mode causes the saving of a corresponding resume file and pushing of a location of the corresponding resume file onto the resume stack; and

selecting a second operational environment to which a resume is desired.

3. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the resume stack comprises pointers identifying which operational environments have been put into sleep mode.

4. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein a an EFI bootnext variable identifies an operational environment to which to resume.

5. (original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the bootnext variable identifies a location of a boot loader corresponding to the selected operational environment.

6. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

waking the computing device in response to a wake event, wherein the selected operational environment is invoked upon waking, and wherein the selected operational environment is resumed from the resume file, if the resume file was identified in an entry popped from the resume stack.

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) A system for resuming an operational environment, comprising:

a multi-boot capable processor coupled with system memory;

a storage unit having multiple partitions, wherein each selectable operational environment corresponds to a partition;

a first selector for determining a next boot location; and

a resume selector, the resume selector to identify a selected operational environment, and to be selected from a plurality of operational environments to run on the processor, the resume selector to determine whether the selected operational environment is on a resume stack, to pop the resume stack to identify a location of a resume file, to invoke the selected operational environment from the resume file, and to boot the selected operational environment, wherein the resume stack identifies a plurality of disparate operational environments,

wherein each operational environment has a corresponding disk partition, the corresponding disk partition having an operational environment loader, wherein the resume file resides in a disk partition identified by a globally unique identifier (GUID) in a partition table, the disk partition corresponding to one of the plurality of operational environments to be run on the processor, and wherein the processor is configured with an extensible firmware interface (EFI) architecture to define the plurality of disk partitions having corresponding operational environments.

10. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the first selector comprises a an EFI bootnext variable pointing to one of a plurality of boot blocks, each of the plurality of boot blocks identifying a location for a boot loader.

11. (original) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein entering a sleep mode for a current operational environment saves a corresponding resume file and pushes a location of the corresponding resume file to the resume stack, and wherein the resume selector resumes the system to a second operational environment to which a resume is desired.

12. (original) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the resume stack comprises pointers identifying which operational environments have been put into sleep mode.

13. (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein a bootnext variable identifies an operational environment to which to resume.

14. (original) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein the bootnext variable identifies a location of a boot loader corresponding to the selected operational environment.

15. (original) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the resume selector wakes the processor in response to a wake event, wherein the selected operational environment is invoked upon waking, and wherein the selected operational environment is resumed from a resume file, if the resume file was identified on the resume stack.

16-17. (canceled)

18 (currently amended). An article of manufacture comprising a tangible machine accessible medium having instructions that, when executed, cause the machine to:

determine whether a selected operational environment is in a resume stack;

if so, then pop an entry from the resume stack to identify a location of a resume file;

invoke the selected operational environment from the resume file, if identified; and

boot the selected operational environment, if the selected operational environment was not on the resume stack, wherein the resume stack identifies a plurality of disparate operational environments,

wherein each operational environment has a corresponding disk partition, the corresponding disk partition having an operational environment loader, wherein the resume file

resides in a disk partition identified by a globally unique identifier (GUID) in a partition table, the disk partition corresponding to one of the plurality of operational environments to be run on the processor, and wherein the processor is configured with an extensible firmware interface (EFI) architecture to define the plurality of disk partitions having corresponding operational environments.

19. (original) The article as recited in claim 18, further comprising instructions that:

enter a sleep mode for a current operational environment, wherein entering the sleep mode causes the saving of a corresponding resume file and pushes a location of the corresponding resume file onto the resume stack; and

select a second operational environment to which a resume is desired.

20. (original) The article as recited in claim 18, wherein the resume stack comprises pointers identifying which operational environments have been put into sleep mode.

21. (original) The article as recited in claim 20, wherein a bootnext variable identifies an operational environment to which to resume.

22. (original) The article as recited in claim 21, wherein the bootnext variable identifies a location of a boot loader corresponding to the selected operational environment.

23. (original) The article as recited in claim 18, further comprising instructions that:

wake the computing device in response to a wake event, wherein the selected operational environment is invoked upon waking, and wherein the selected operational environment is resumed from the resume file, if the resume file was identified as being in the resume stack.

24-25. (canceled)

26. A method for resuming a computing device, comprising:

determining whether a selected operational environment has an associated resume file;

identifying a location of the associated resume file, if available;

resuming the selected operational environment using the associated resume file, if available; and

booting the selected operational environment, if the associated resume file is not available, wherein the selected operational environment is chosen from a plurality of disparate operational environments capable of being executed on the computing device,

wherein each operational environment has a corresponding disk partition, the corresponding disk partition having an operational environment loader, wherein the resume file resides in a disk partition identified by a globally unique identifier (GUID) in a partition table, the disk partition corresponding to one of a plurality of operational environments to be run on the computing device, and wherein the computing device is configured with an extensible firmware interface (EFI) architecture to define the plurality of disk partitions having corresponding operational environments.

27. (original) The method as recited in claim 26, further comprising:

entering a sleep mode for a current operational environment, wherein entering the sleep mode causes the saving of a corresponding resume file, the location of the corresponding resume file being made accessible to a resume selector; and

selecting a second operational environment to which a resume is desired.

28. (original) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein the resume selector uses pointers identifying locations of resume files of operational environments which have been put into sleep mode.

29. (original) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein a bootnext variable identifies an operational environment to which to resume.

30. (original) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein the bootnext variable identifies a location of a boot loader corresponding to the selected operational environment.

31. (newly added) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein in an operating system loader for the selected operational environment resides in a system disk partition conforming to an extensible firmware interface (EFI) architecture.

32. (newly added) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

selecting by a user the operational environment to resume, wherein the selecting is effected by utilizing a physical selection means, the selection means being chosen from the group of selection means consisting of a button, toggle, switch, and other physical circuit interruption devices.

33. (newly added) The system as recited in claim 9, further comprising:

a physical selection means to be operated on by a user in order to choose the selected operational environment to be resumed, wherein the physical selection means is chosen from the group of selection means consisting of a button, toggle, switch, and other physical circuit interruption devices.